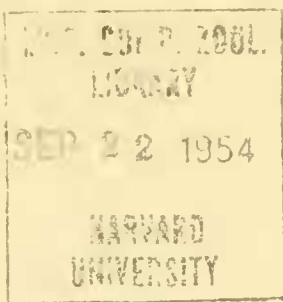


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## THREE NEW BIRDS FROM THE YUCATÁN PENINSULA.

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In the course of an ornithogeographic survey of the Yucatán Peninsula the following new subspecies were found. It is believed that the description of these three races completes the long list of Peninsular endemics, with the possible exception of several forms for which there is still inadequate material.

*Dendrocolaptes certhia legtersi* subsp. nov.

Type: ♂ ad. (Y.P.M., No. 8471), collected March 4, 1949, by Raymond A. Paynter, Jr., at Carrillo Puerto, Quintana Roo, Mexico.

Diagnosis: closest to *D. c. sancti-thomae*, the contiguous race, but considerably more pallid ventrally and slightly more pallid dorsally; the distinctive rufescent tone of the underparts is almost lacking, the gray of the chin is lighter, and the pileum is less richly rufescent.

Range: known only from Carrillo Puerto and Tabi, in central Quintana Roo; probably ranges northward on the Peninsula to the limit of the rain forest.

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Remarks: this is another example of a species characteristic of the rain forest which responds to the drier conditions of the Peninsula by becoming more pallid.

Specimens from southern Campeche and southern Quintana Roo exhibit an approach toward this new form.

It is a pleasure to name this race for Mr. D. B. Legters, a resident of Yucatán, who has been of inestimable assistance in the field and who collected many of the specimens used in these studies.

Specimens examined: *D. c. legtersi*—four males and one female from Carrillo Puerto and Tabi, Quintana Roo. *D. c. sanctithomae*—38 specimens, of both sexes, from Nicaragua, Honduras, British Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico, including Veracruz, Oaxaca, Chiapas, Campeche, and southern Quintana Roo.

*Platyrrinchus mystaceus timothei* subsp. nov.

Type: ♂ ad. (Y.P.M., No. 13735), collected February 25, 1951, by Raymond A. Paynter, Jr., 24 km. NW. Xtocomo, Quintana Roo, Mexico.

Diagnosis: nearest to *P. m. cancrominus* but dorsally lighter, more olive rather than brown; ventrally paler yellow, the breast band less well-defined, and the streaking reduced.

Range: rain forest in Quintana Roo and Campeche, Mexico, in Petén, Guatemala, and in British Honduras.

Remarks: specimens from Petén and from southern and central British Honduras are slightly less pale than those from Quintana Roo and Campeche.

This race is dedicated to the memory of Timothy H. Laughlin, who spent the last months of his short life as my companion and assistant in Yucatán, and to whom I shall always be greatly indebted.

Specimens examined: *P. m. timothei*—six males and two females from Agua Blanca, Km. 21 on the Chetumal-Bacalar Road, 46 km. W. Chetumal, 24 km. NW. Xtocomo, Carrillo Puerto, Tabi, and Chacalal, Quintana Roo; one female and one unsexed from La Tuxpeña, Campeche; five males and two females from Uaxactún, Petén; three males and one female from Manatee Lagoon, Toledo District, and Cayo District, British Honduras. *P. m. cancrinus*—21 specimens of both sexes from Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico, including Veracruz and Tabasco.

*Dumetella glabrirostris cozumelana* subsp. nov.

Type: ♂ ad. (Y.P.M., No. 8786), collected January 6, 1949, by Raymond A. Paynter, Jr., on Isla Cozumel, Quintana Roo, Mexico.

Diagnosis: differs from the nominate form in having a longer and slightly heavier bill.

Range: Isla Cozumel, Quintana Roo.

Measurements: *D. g. cozumelana*—the culmen, from the base, of seven males ranges from 22.5 to 25.0 mm., with a mean of  $23.64 \pm 0.29$  mm.; one female 22.5 mm.; *D. g. glabrirostris*—seven males from the mainland of Quintana Roo and from Half-moon Cay, British Honduras range from 21.5 to 22.0 mm., with a mean of  $21.79 \pm 0.09$  mm., and five females from Quintana Roo, Campeche, and Yucatán range from 21.0 to 22.5 mm., with a mean of  $21.60 \pm 0.26$  mm. The difference between the means of the males of the two forms is statistically significant ( $P < 0.01$ ).

Remarks: I am unable to recognize any character which warrants maintaining the monotypic genus *Melanoptila* for this species. In structure, size, and behavior this is merely an all-black species of *Dumetella*.

Although not a strongly marked race, as are so many of those endemic to Isla Cozumel, its characters appear to be consistent.

Slightly heavier weight may be an additional character of *D. g. cozumelana*, although the data are insufficient to prove the suggestion. Four males from Isla Cozumel weighed 39.4, 40.3, 40.3, and 41.8 grams; a female 41.3 grams. Two males of *D. g. glabrirostris* from Quintana Roo weighed 36.8 and 38.1 grams; two females from Quintana Roo and one from Campeche 35.3, 36.1, and 31.6 grams respectively.

Specimens examined: *D. g. cozumelana*—seven males, one female, and one unsexed from Isla Cozumel, Quintana Roo. *D. g. glabrirostris*—four males, three females, nine unsexed from Chetumal, 24 km. NW. Xtocomo, Carrillo Puerto, Ch'ich', Isla Holbox, and Isla Mujeres, Quintana Roo; one male and two unsexed from "Yucatán," Chichén Itzá, and Xocempich, Yucatán; one female from 2 km. N. Agua-da Seca, Campeche; two males and two females from Belize and Half-moon Cay, British Honduras.

For lending me necessary comparative material under their care I am obligated to E. R. Blake of the Chicago Natural History Museum, to H. Friedmann of the United States National Museum, to J. D. Macdonald of the British Museum (Natural History), to R. W. Storer of the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, and to J. T. Zimmer of the American Museum of Natural History.